Stapleford Rural District Council.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(CHARLES HARWOOD, M.D.),

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

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Stapleford Rural District Council.

REPORT FOR 1896.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Report relating to the health of the District during the year 1896.

The Area of the District is 4,860 acres.

At the census of April, 1891, the population was found to be 6,275. To the middle of 1896 the estimated population amounts to 6,871.

During the year 246 births were registered, viz.: 123 males, and 123 females.

The Deaths were 94, viz.: 45 males and 49 females.

The natural increase of the population by the excess of births over deaths is 152.

The birth rate for the year was 35·8 per thousand of the population.

The death rate for the year was 13·6 per thousand of the population.

The infantile death rate (*i.e.*, infants under one year of age) was 4·3 per thousand of the population.

The following table shows the ages at which the deaths occurred throughout the district, viz.:—

Deaths under 1 year of age	31
,, over 1 ,, ,, under 5 years ...	10
,, ,, 5 ,, ,, ,, 15 ,, ...	3
,, ,, 15 ,, ,, ,, 25 ,, ...	2
,, ,, 25 ,, ,, ,, 65 ,, ...	25
,, ,, 65 ,, ,, ...	23
Total ...	94

Of these 94 deaths 6 were caused by the Zymotic diseases, viz. :—

Scarlatina ...	... 2	...	at Bramcote.
Scarlatina ..	... 1	...	,, Stapleford.
Enteric Fever	... 1	...	,, ,,
Measles ...	... 1	...	,, ,,
Whooping Cough	... 1	...	,, ,,

Three of these deaths occurred in children under five years of age, and three over.

The Zymotic death rate was ·6 per thousand of the population.

Thirty-six notifications of infectious cases, scheduled under the Notification Act, were received during the year, viz. :—

Scarlatina	21
Membranous Croup	1
Typhoid Fever	5
Puerperal Fever	1
Erysipelas	8
Total ...	36

Fifteen of these Scarlatina cases occurred at Stapleford, five at Bramcote, and one at Chilwell. At Bramcote, it lingered from the epidemic of the latter part of the previous year, when there were six cases, with two deaths in the house where it first broke out. An isolation hospital would have been invaluable at that time.

Cases of Enteric Fever occurred in Bessel Lane, Stapleford. I have reported cases of fever in this locality in former years. The locality is low, damp, and badly drained. I hope the new sewerage scheme for Stapleford will go a long way to rectify this.

At Toton, a young man had Typhoid Fever at a small farm house, where a case occurred two years previously. Special precautions were taken with regard to the milk. The drinking water was bad, and direct communication existed between the house and the drain. No other case occurred connected with this one. There were no cases of Diphtheria in the district, and only one of Membranous Croup, one case of Puerperal Fever, and eight cases of Eryseplas, which require no comment.

Interesting cases of Ptomaine poisoning occurred in the month of April at Bramcote, and I reported to you as follows, viz. :—" That I visited Bramcote immediately on hearing of the cases, and that I found a man named Shaw, his wife, his mother, and two daughters had partaken of potted meat (bought

at a butchers in the place), and were quickly seized with symptoms of irritant poisoning, and were very ill indeed for a time. Medical advice was procured for them at once. A young man, a lodger in the house, had supper with them at the same time, but did not partake of the potted meat, and he did not suffer in any way. A neighbour named Hawley also bought and partook of some of the potted meat, and suffered in the same way. Other neighbours, Mrs. Hewitt and two children, Mr. Towlson, his wife and two children also bought and partook of the potted meat, and suffered in the same way. I could not get into the premises of the butcher at my first visit, but on going over a second time, I found the premises undergoing a cleaning process, and some necessary drainage alterations, &c., in progress. I consider these cases as poisoning by ptomaines, which are a result of putrefactive changes taking place in the meat, caused by damp and polluted air from the drain."

The remaining eighty-eight cases are classified under the following diseases, viz. :—

Phthisis	4
Respiratory Diseases	17
Heart Disease	13
All other diseases	54
Total ...	88

Only one inquest was held during the year, and only two deaths were uncertified.

The 1891 Census Population and the Estimated Population to the middle of 1896, and the Births and Deaths in the villages during the year were as follows, viz. :—

BRAMCOTE.

Area in acres, 995.

Census population, 762. Estimated population to middle of 1896, 793.

Births, 17—viz. : 11 males and 6 females.

Deaths, 16—viz. : 5 males and 11 females.

4	died under	...	1	year of	age.
1	,,	between 5 and	15	,,	,,
1	,,	,, 15 ,,	25	,,	,,
6	,,	,, 25 ,,	65	,,	,,
4	,,	over ...	65	,,	,,

The diseases were—Scarlatina, 2. Respiratory diseases, 2. Heart disease, 5. Not classified, 7.

CHILWELL AND ATTENBORO'.

Area in acres, 1,300.
Census population, 1,013. Estimated population to middle of 1896, 1,108.

Births, 48—viz. : 21 males and 27 females.
Deaths, 7—viz. : 5 males and 2 females.

4	died under	...	1	year of age.	
1	,,	between 15 and 25		,,	,,
1	,,	,, 25 ,,	65	,,	,,
1	,,	over ...	65	,,	,,

The diseases were—Heart disease, 1. Not classified, 6.

STAPLEFORD.

Area in acres, 1,193.
Census population, 4,255. Estimated population to middle of 1896, 4,724.

Births, 181—viz. : 91 males and 90 females.
Deaths, 67—viz. : 33 males and 34 females.

22	died under	...	1	year of age.	
10	,,	between 1 and 5		,,	,,
1	,,	,, 5 ,,	15	,,	,,
18	,,	,, 25 ,,	65	,,	,,
16	,,	over ...	65	,,	,,

The diseases were—Scarlatina, 1. Typhoid Fever, 1. Measles, 1. Whooping Cough, 1. Phthisis, 4. Respiratory diseases, 15. Heart Disease, 6. Not classified, 38.

TOTON.

Area in acres, 1,372.
Census population, 245. Estimated population to middle of 1896, 246.

Births, none.
Deaths, 4—viz. : 2 males and 2 females.

1	died under	...	1	year of age.	
1	,,	between 5 and 15		,,	,,
2	,,	over ...	65	,,	,,

The diseases were—Heart disease, 1. Not classified, 3.

During the year I have examined and condemned samples of water brought to me by the Inspector. Several nuisances dangerous to health have been removed at my instance along with the Inspector. The year has been a very quiet one. A

joint scheme of sewerage for Stapleford and Sandiacre is proposed, and when carried out, will be a great boon to those places. There has been no closure of dwelling houses, nor have I had to investigate any cases of unsound meat or food of any description. My routine work has been followed out, as in previous years.

The usual Tables are appended, and thanking you for your courtesy during the year,

I am, yours faithfully,

C. HARWOOD, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAPLEFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Area in Acres	4,860
Census Population of 1891	6,275
Estimated Population to middle of 1896 ...	6,871

Deaths for the year 1896, 94—viz.: Males, 45; Females, 49.

Births for the year 1896, 246—viz.: Males, 123; Females, 123.

Death Rate for the Year 1896 ...	13·6 per 1,000
Infantile Death Rate	4·3 ,,
Zymotic Death Rate	·6 ,,

TABLE 1.

Diseases.	Under 5 years of age.	Over 5 years of age.
Scarlatina	1	2
Typhoid Fever	0	1
Measles	1	0
Whooping Cough	1	0
Phthisis	0	4
Respiratory Diseases ...	12	5
Heart Disease	0	13
Diseases not classified ...	26	28
	41	53
	Total ...	94

TABLE 2.

BIRTHS IN THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1896.

Males	123
Females	123
Total ...	146

Birth rate for the year 1896, 35·8 per thousand.